

joice with (pious) rites; may our praises
invigorate
thee.

20. "We ever choose the friendship of
AGKNT, the
unharméd, the strong, the messenger,
the praiser
(of the gods).

Varga XL. 21. The pure A GOT shines forth when
worshipped,
—the purest offerer, the pure priest, the
pure sage.¹

22. May my rites also and my praises
ever in-
vigate thee; AG-NI, take thought of cfar
friendship.

23. AGNI, if I were thou or thou wert
I,² thy
wishes here should come true.

24. AGNI, thou art rich in splendour,
the lord of
wealth, and the giver of dwellings; may we
too
abide in thy favour.

25. AGNI, my loud praises proceed to
thee, obser-
vant of pious rites, as rivers to the sea.

Varga XLL 26. I glorify with hymns the ever-
young AOTI,
the lord of men, the wise, the all-
devouring,³ the
performer of many acts.

26. Let us seek with our hymns AGNI,
the con-
ductor of the sacrifices, the mighty, the sharp-
jawed.

27. May this (my family) also be thy
worshippers,
adorable⁴ AG-NI; O purifier, give them
happiness.

¹ I follow Prof. Wilson in rendering *kavi* as "sage"
(of. Say.
adR.Y. i. 3L 2), but Sayana here, as more usually,
interprets

it as *~kro,ntakarman*.

³ That is, if I were rich, like thee and thou wert poor like me.

³ *Viswddam* ^ the devourer of the entire oblation (Sayana).

⁴ Sayana here takes *santya* as *Ihajaniya*, elsewhere he generally explains it as *jphala.prada*.